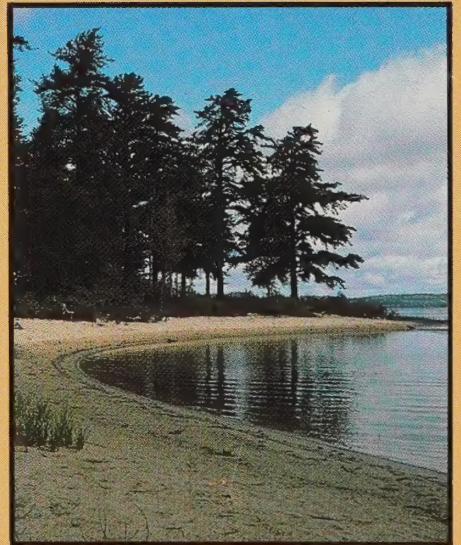


Ontario's Public Land

MAR 3 1986

A guide to its use


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Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio
Minister

Mary Mogford
Deputy Minister

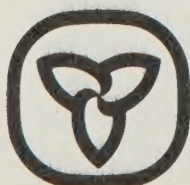


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Ontario's Public Land

A guide to its use



Ontario

**Ministry of
Natural
Resources**

Hon. Vincent G. Kerrio
Minister

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Deputy Minister

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Public Land Management

What is Public Land?

Very briefly, public land is all land that is not privately owned.

Ontario's land law is based on the English common law which, in turn, relates back to the English feudal system where all land was owned by the reigning monarch who could, as he or she saw fit, grant rights in land to his or her subjects. Ownership of land by the Crown gave rise to the term "Crown lands" and, even today, the terms "public land" and "Crown land" are used interchangeably.

At Confederation in 1867, most Crown lands within each province were placed under the jurisdiction of the Provincial Governments and have so remained to this day. The Crown (The Queen) continues to own Crown land but the Provincial Government exercises administration and control over it. Therefore, Crown (or public) land in Ontario is land that has either never been granted, or land that has come back into Crown ownership through purchase or forfeiture.

At the present time, approximately 87 percent of Ontario's 1,068,582 square kilometres is provincial Crown (public) land. This includes provincial parks which comprise about four percent of the Province's area, but does not include Crown lands under federal jurisdiction, such as Indian reserves, national parks, military bases and federal harbours and canals which, collectively, comprise about three percent of Ontario's total area.

Incidentally, most land under navigable lakes and rivers is provincial Crown land and is included in the 87 percent figure mentioned above.

It is possible to have several rights in any parcel of land. The two main rights are surface rights and mining rights. In addition, timber rights may be dealt with separately from either the surface rights or the mining rights, and rights of easement may also be granted. Where rights of easement exist, the surface rights are then subject to the easement.

In the case of public lands, the Ministry of Natural Resources, acting for the Crown, may sell or lease either the surface or the mining rights, or both, and

may grant rights to cut down timber by issuing Crown timber licences.

Where the Ministry grants an easement across public lands, any subsequent sale or lease of those lands is made subject to the already-granted easement.

Thus it is possible for several people to have concurrent legal interests in the same parcel of land. For example, an easement across a property might be held by a pipeline company; the surface rights might be held by a farmer (subject to the easement); the mining rights might be held by a mining company; and the rights to cut timber on it might be held by a timber licensee.

More commonly, however, interests in land are less complex. In this brochure, we will generally be talking about situations where the surface rights, at least, are provincial public or Crown lands owned by the Crown.

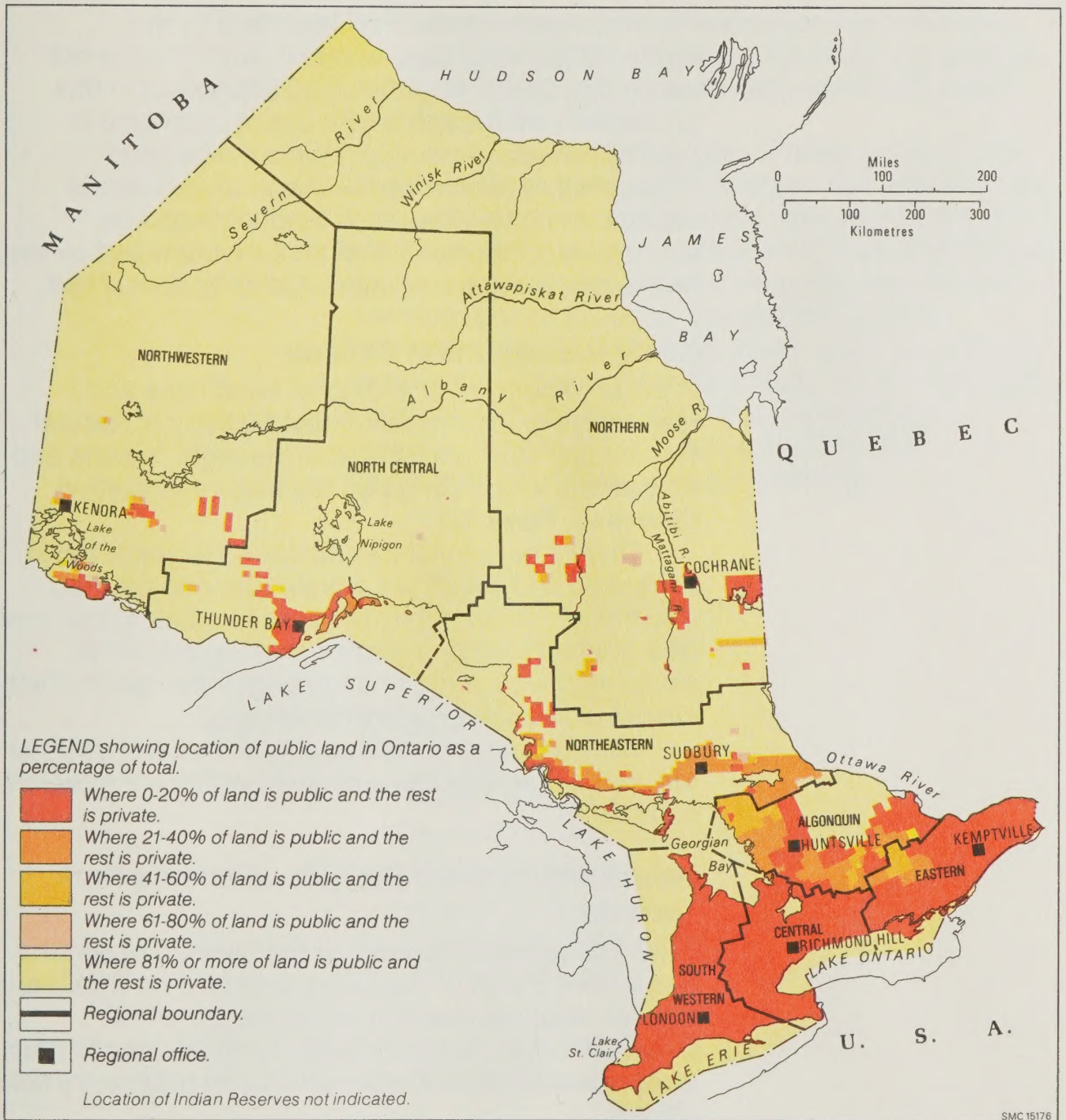
NOTE: Throughout this brochure references will be made to “northern” Ontario and “southern” Ontario. For Ministry of Natural Resources purposes, the boundary between northern Ontario and southern Ontario is the French and Mattawa Rivers which, along with Lake Nipissing, form an east-west line across the Province just south of the city of North Bay.

Who Manages Public Lands?

Recently changes have been made giving the responsibility for The Mining Act to the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. The Mining Records now report to that Ministry, however, Mining Lands matters and the issuance of title documents are still handled by Land Management Branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources for the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines.

The Ministry of Natural Resources, in addition to having management responsibility for the public land base, is responsible for the management of the forest, water, fish, and wildlife resources, all of which are either dependent upon, or part of the land.

Public Land in Ontario



It should be noted that land held by the municipalities and Conservation Authorities is not part of the Crown or public land addressed in this brochure even though public use of such land is usually allowed. Individual municipalities and Conservation Authorities are separate corporate entities and, therefore, their landholdings are, technically, privately-owned and are managed by the municipality or Conservation Authority concerned.

Local Management Offices

In order to be familiar with local conditions and responsive to local needs, most Ministry of Natural Resources' staff are located in the eight regions and 47 districts which comprise the field organization (See map, Page 43).

District personnel can advise as to which lands are public and which are private, provide detailed information about public land uses in their areas, and give guidance on procedures and requirements associated with using or acquiring public lands. Each district is headed by a District Manager.

Ministry regional offices coordinate and oversee the work of the districts contained within each region's boundary.

Land Management Branch—Queen's Park, Toronto

Land Management Branch of the Ministry of Natural Resources is part of the Lands and Waters Group and is responsible for leading the management of Ontario's Crown lands. In order to do this, the Branch is represented at both main office and at Ministry field offices.

The main office component of Land Management Branch is located in the Whitney Block, Queen's Park, Toronto. It provides policy direction and advice to field offices in a variety of programs including public land management and the access roads program. The issuance of title documents and the administration of mining acreage taxes are functions that are centralized at main office. As part of the Ministry's overall Lands and Waters Group strategies,

the Branch also analyzes human resource needs or manpower to get the job done and develops training and educational initiatives to help make staff more effective in their tasks.

Day-to-day administration of lands programs is largely decentralized to the Ministry field offices. This means decisions about specific uses and future plans for Crown lands are made by the 47 District Managers who are responsible for controlling the uses of land, opening up new areas for development, and minimizing conflicts between uses and users. This is explained further in this publication. You will find the Lands staff in the district offices are helpful in providing further information about the land management programs in their districts.

Director's Office
Room 6643, Whitney Block
99 Wellesley Street West
Queen's Park
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1W3
Tel: (416) 965-1498

Public Lands Section
Room 6603, Whitney Block
Tel: (416) 965-2741

Mining Lands Section
Room 6602, Whitney Block
Tel: (416) 965-1380

Titles Section
Room 6645, Whitney Block
Tel: (416) 965-1319

Resource Access Section (Roads)
Room 6643, Whitney Block
Tel: (416) 965-5735

Industrial Minerals Section
Room 4646, Whitney Block
Tel: (416) 965-3127

Fuel Minerals Section
Room 4629, Whitney Block
Tel: (416) 963-1833

Benefits and Responsibilities

Public land provides benefits to all Ontarians. It yields revenue and thereby relieves the pinch on the taxpayer's purse; it annually provides many millions of opportunities for high quality outdoor recreation and, always of great importance, it provides employment. Public lands and waters produce the major portion of Ontario's timber, minerals, fish, game, fur, aggregates, and hydroelectricity.

While the Ministry of Natural Resources is responsible for managing the Province's public land and ensuring that the public derives the greatest possible benefits from it, every person shares the responsibility for maintaining the quality of lands and waters so that the benefits will continue to flow. The amount of public use of Crown lands and waters is probably as intense in Ontario as in any other jurisdiction in the world. The very extent of this use means that all users must know and obey the laws which protect the natural environment, and constantly practice good outdoorsmanship. Land and water must not be misused or abused. Laws against dumping and littering, for instance, help to protect everyone's right to enjoyment of an unspoiled countryside.

Abuses/Misuses of Land and Water

Unfortunately, abuses and misuses of land and water are fairly common. Litter, indiscriminately dumped garbage, and abandoned derelict cars and boats, spoil the natural beauty of many areas. The Ministry makes every effort to keep public land clean and attractive, but it often appears to be a never-ending job so long as a few people fail to recognize their individual responsibility for treating the outdoors with respect. Therefore, take the initiative, and ensure that your garbage goes to authorized garbage sites.

Land along shorelines is frequently subjected to abuses in the form of filling or dredging. These activities not only mar the natural beauty of the shoreline, but more importantly, they destroy the habitat of the plants, insects, and organisms that are a vital link in the food chain for fish and many species

of birds and other animals.

Another all-too-common misuse is the placing of buildings or other structures on Crown land without lawful authority. These “squatter” structures are usually inconsistent with the land use plans for the area in which they are located, and because squatters seek to avoid paying rent for the public land occupied by them, the provincial treasury—hence every citizen—is deprived of rightful revenue.

The Ministry deals with unauthorized occupancies by invoking the provisions of the Public Lands Act: the unauthorized building, structure, or thing becomes the property of the Crown and is then sold, disposed of, or destroyed. In addition, the person who placed the structure there, or claims it, is liable to a substantial fine.

Land Use Planning

Although the area of public land in Ontario is vast and varied, conflict over land use can and does occur. For example, recreationists may oppose proposed forest harvesting or mining operations, or local anglers might oppose the development of a tourist establishment on a particular lake. The fair resolution of these opposing views is essential because harvesting of resources and development of land are as vital to the provincial and national economies, as recreational opportunities are to the well-being of society.

In Ontario, the basic mechanism for prevention, amelioration or resolution of land use conflicts is the land use planning system. Most of the Ministry’s 47 districts have an approved land use plan (known as District Land Use Guidelines) which addresses the current and intended future uses of all Crown lands in the district. Each plan is a product of exhaustive research and study of the lands, waters, and known or visible resources, plus extensive dialogue with and input from all the local agencies and people who are likely to be affected by changes in land use. Within municipalities, the District Land Use Guidelines are carefully dovetailed with municipal official plans which address privately owned lands.

It should be noted here that the vast bulk of northern Ontario is unorganized territory, that is, territory without municipal organization. In the unorganized territory, since there is no municipal government and therefore no municipal official plans, the Ministry's land use guidelines are the chief source of land use information and guidance.

The Ministry's land use plans chart the way toward making the best long-term use of existing land and resources through rational sharing amongst a wide variety of users and conflicting interests; for example, demand for jobs in resource harvesting industries versus demand for untouched wilderness. A use designation that fully satisfies everyone is sometimes impossible but the emphasis is on finding alternatives which provide the greatest benefit for the most people without overstressing any single natural resource.

Within the framework of provincial and district land use guidelines, the Ministry also undertakes local planning, focussed on proposed local developments. For example, before allowing the development of a tourist lodge on a lake, the lake and its surroundings are studied to determine the probable effects on its characteristics, such as its water quality and fisheries resources. Results of the studies indicate whether or not a lodge should be established, and where on a specific section of shoreline it should be located.

Land Surveys

In 1783, the first instructions to survey a township were issued to John Collins, Deputy Surveyor to provide lands for the United Empire Loyalists. Further demand for land by discharged soldiers and immigrants necessitated the laying out of additional townships and eventually the whole of southern Ontario was subdivided. This scheme of laying out townships for the orderly development of the Province was continued until 1930 with the last townships to be surveyed being in the Great Clay Belt.

Base and meridian lines were surveyed in northern Ontario to form the framework for further

surveys and for air photo control for resource inventories.

The Criminal Code of Canada protects the marks left by a surveyor which are important for the future re-establishment of boundaries.

Land surveys done many years ago continue to be the basis for municipal organization, planning and resource management and extraction.

Crown Mineral Resources

The Ministry works with other Government ministries, primarily the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, and industry, to encourage and regulate the orderly development of Ontario's mineral resources. Various tenure documents which authorize mining and quarrying on Crown lands are discussed in this brochure.

Crown lands are generally open for staking as mining claims. However, there are exceptions such as roads, highways, provincial parks, cemeteries, town or village lots, sites for urban residential and public buildings, and land intended for resort or waterpower development. Records of land not open for mining, as well as all mining claims that have been recorded, are filed with the local Mining Recorder who works for the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. This information is available to the public either free of charge, or in the case of some types of data, for a small fee. Also available to the public is a wealth of information that has been compiled by the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines from field geological investigations. Reports and maps on the geology of geographical areas of the Province may be used for reference purposes without charge in the Mines Library, 77 Grenville Street, Queen's Park, Toronto. They may also be examined in the offices of the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and the Ministry of Natural Resources (see addresses p. 14). These specialized reports and maps, plus additional technical papers and booklets on mining, are for sale in the Public Information Centre, Room 1640, Whitney Block, Queen's Park, Toronto M7A 1W3. A complete literature index, the Ontario Mineral Resources

Publications Price List, may be helpful when deciding on the most useful publications.

Regional/Resident-Geologists' Offices

Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

Kenora	808 Robertson Street Box 5080 Kenora, Ontario P9N 3X9 Tel: (807) 468-3111
Red Lake	Ontario Government Building Box 5003 Red Lake, Ontario P0V 2M0 Tel: (807) 727-2253
Sioux Lookout	Court House Building Box 309 Sioux Lookout, Ontario P0V 2T0 Tel: (807) 737-1140
Thunder Bay	435 James Street South Thunder Bay, Ontario P7C 5G6 Tel: (807) 475-1331
Timmins	60 Wilson Avenue Timmins, Ontario P4N 2S7 Tel: (705) 267-1401
Kirkland Lake	4 Government Road East Kirkland Lake, Ontario P2N 1A2 Tel: (705) 567-5242
Sudbury	10th Floor, 199 Larch Street Sudbury, Ontario P3E 5P9 Tel: (705) 675-4128
Sault Ste. Marie	875 Queen Street East Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 2B3 Tel: (705) 949-1231

Cobalt	Box 230 Presley Street Cobalt, Ontario P0J 1C0 Tel: (705) 679-8558
Huntsville	Brendale Square Box 9000 Huntsville, Ontario P0A 1K0 Tel: (705) 789-9611
Bancroft	Hwy. 28, Box 500 Bancroft, Ontario K0L 1C0 Tel: (613) 332-3940

Ministry of Natural Resources

Tweed	255 Metcalfe Street Box 70 Tweed, Ontario K0K 3J0 Tel: (613) 478-2330
Richmond Hill	10670 Yonge Street Richmond Hill, Ontario L4C 3C9 Tel: (416) 884-9203
London	659 Exeter Road Box 5463 London, Ontario N6A 4L6 Tel: (519) 681-5350

Resource Access (Roads) Program

General

Resource access roads are constructed and maintained on Crown land to provide access to forests for harvesting, regeneration and other forest management work; for mineral exploration and extraction; for access to Ministry facilities (e.g. access points, provincial parks, hydro dams, fish hatcheries, tree nurseries); access to recreation and cottaging areas; access to residential subdivisions; and for



general public, commercial and industrial transportation uses.

The Ministry's resource access roads are, in most cases, open to public travel. Occasionally, however, the District Manager may elect to close certain roads or portions of roads to public travel for given periods of time, where warranted. Valid reasons for closure include an emergency situation such as forest fire or flood, seasonal weather factors such as spring break-up which make the roads vulnerable to damage, closure for controlling the level of harvesting or use of a natural resource, unlimited public access interfering with the viability of a commercial activity such as a remote tourist lodge, or where the cost of maintaining a road in a safe condition simply exceeds the benefits of keeping it open.

Road Classifications

Legislation applicable to roads on Crown land is found in Part II of the Public Lands Act which recognizes three categories of roads as follows:

1. **Private Forest Roads:** These are forest roads which are rented by the Crown to a priority user (such as a timber licensee) who then, as a tenant, is in a position to control traffic on the road. In some cases the Ministry will enter into an agreement with the holder of a private forest road so that the road remains open to public travel even though it has private road status.
2. **Public Forest Roads:** These are roads, other than private forest roads, that have been designated by the Minister as Public Forest Roads. Since the Highway Traffic Act applies to public forest roads, all vehicles using these roads must be registered and licenced.
3. **Roads:** Roads which are neither private forest roads nor public forest roads but which are on public lands and are not recognized as King's highways, secondary highways, or tertiary roads designated under the Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act or roads under the jurisdiction of a statute labour board or local roads board are, for purposes of classification,

“unclassified roads”. Since unclassified roads are highways within the meaning of the Highway Traffic Act, all vehicles using them must be registered and licenced.

Cooperative Programs

In addition to the construction and maintenance of its own roads, the Ministry is also involved in other resource access programs, including...

Forest Management Agreement Program (F.M.A.)

The purpose of the F.M.A. program is to provide for a continuous supply of forest products by ensuring that forests are harvested and regenerated on a sustained yield basis.

A Forest Management Agreement is a contractual agreement between the Crown and a forest company whereby the company undertakes forest management practices, including road construction, reconstruction and maintenance, on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Interested forest companies should contact the Forest Resources Group of the Ministry for further information.

Northern Ontario Resources Transportation Committee (N.O.R.T.C.)

The purpose of the N.O.R.T.C. program is to support transportation improvements for resource-based industries which will promote economic growth and development in northern Ontario. Financial assistance for road access to resources may be provided by N.O.R.T.C. where...

- The venture is in production or at a stage of development that will guarantee production in the near future;
- The applicant is prepared to construct the road to a standard reasonably consistent with the level and type of use it will receive;
- The applicant owns the right-of-way or has legal rights to occupy it. (So that title to the roadway can be transferred to a recognized road authority, should that be desirable at a future date.)

Currently N.O.R.T.C. subsidies are one-half the

actual costs incurred, up to a maximum of \$25,000. per kilometre.

Requests for assistance should be sent to the Secretary of the Northern Ontario Resources Transportation Committee, Ministry of Northern Development, 435 James Street South, Box 5000, Thunder Bay, Ontario, P7E 6E3.

A description of the proposed undertaking should accompany the request and include such items as expected operating life of the project, start-up date, financial backing and location and type of proposed access.

Federal-Provincial Agreements

The Province's Resource Access Program receives financial support from the Federal Government through agreements such as (i) the Forest Management Subsidiary Agreement (FMSA) and more recently (ii) the Canada-Ontario Forest Resource Development Agreement (COFRDA).

The FMSA program ran from April 1, 1979, to March 31, 1984, and under this agreement \$54.5 million has been directed toward the construction of forest access roads and bridges to ensure that the access requirements of Ontario's forest management program are being met.

The COFRDA program covers the period from April 1, 1984, to March 31, 1989, and is intended to continue initiatives begun under the above-mentioned FMSA program. Under this agreement a total of \$23 million will be spent to improve the distribution of both forest harvesting and regeneration operations as well as permitting the salvage of damaged forest stands.

Land Under Water

Land which forms the beds of navigable streams and lakes is generally public land, unless specifically included in a lease or other tenure document. The beds of federal harbours and canals are administered by the Government of Canada, but the beds of all other lakes and rivers, including the Great Lakes out to the international boundary, are part of Ontario's public land base.

Public land under water, in terms of its management under the Public Lands Act, is no different than dry land; the same principles of ownership and protection apply. No one can build on it or otherwise take possession of it without first obtaining proper authorization from the Ministry and, of course, improper uses are subject to the same controls and penalties.

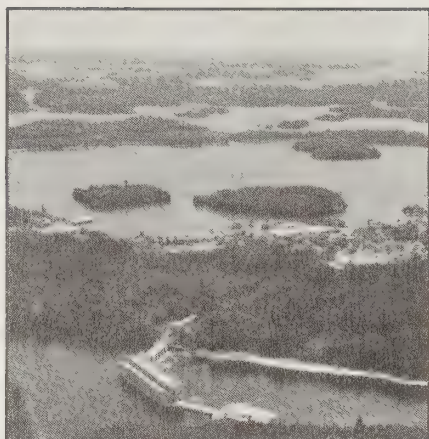
An owner of waterfront property must always bear in mind that, before undertaking any construction, dredging or other activity on land below the high water mark, the local district office of the Ministry of Natural Resources must be contacted for advice as to the exact whereabouts of the boundary between the private land and the Crown lake bed and, if it is determined that public land is affected, to provide the necessary approval.

In most instances, where an improvement such as a small dock or boathouse is to be used only for private (non-commercial) purposes, the requirement to obtain tenure and pay rent may be waived. For larger improvements, however, and for those used for or in connection with commercial or industrial businesses, authorization in the form of tenure is required and annual rent is payable, based on the amount of public land occupied.

Working in or around water is an activity subject to the provisions of several sections of the federal Fisheries Act and the provincial Game and Fish Act. In Ontario, these two pieces of legislation are administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Beaches and Shorelands

In the majority of cases, privately owned land does not extend right to the water's edge. Instead there is commonly a strip of land, usually 20.12 metres (66 feet) wide, which was established by the original survey as a shoreline road allowance or a shoreline Crown reserve. The waterward edge of this strip may have been established at the water's edge or at the high water mark. To know for sure, it is necessary to research the original survey and the original Crown grant by which the land behind the 20.12 metre (66



foot) strip became patented (transferred to private ownership).

Every 20.12 metre (66 foot) shoreline strip which was designated as a road allowance has the character of a common and public highway, whether there is actually a road on it or not. Within municipalities, road allowances are owned by the municipal corporation; in unorganized territory, road allowances are owned by the Crown.

In some localities, 20.12 metre (66 foot) shoreline strips were established as Crown shoreline reserves. In such cases, the strip—whether or not it is in a municipality—is simply ungranted public land with no status as a road unless, of course, there actually is a road on it.

Whether the shoreline strip is a road allowance or a Crown reserve, the owner of the land immediately behind it may be allowed to purchase all or part of it, especially if his cottage or other valuable improvement is located on or partially on it. For road allowances within municipalities, the landowner must deal with the municipality; for road allowances in unorganized territory and Crown reserves anywhere in the Province the landowner would apply to the local district office of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Under the Beach Protection Act, a licence is required for removal of sand, earth, stone or similar materials from beaches or land under water. Such a licence is needed even when the material is being removed from private property by the owner. However, no licence is required for the removal of these materials by municipalities for municipal use or by a resident of Ontario for personal use only (not for resale or commercial use). In this case, the resident must obtain written consent from the council of the local municipality.

Dams and Diversions

The construction of dams and/or the alteration of any lake, pond, river, or stream—whether on public or private land—is regulated by the Ministry of Natural Resources under the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act, copies of which are available from the Ontario

Government Bookstore, 880 Bay Street, Toronto, M7A 1W3, or the Public Information Centre, Queen's Park, Whitney Block, Toronto. Anyone planning such a project must obtain approval from the Ministry before the project starts.

In authorizing a dam, or similar work, the Ministry tries to ensure that the location, design, and structural characteristics of the proposed work are such that risk of flooding or other damage to public or private property is minimized; that the flow of water to downstream users is not unreasonably reduced; and that lake levels will be satisfactorily regulated. Any potentially harmful effects on fish, wildlife, and other components of the natural aquatic environment must also be considered and minimized. Approval of the proposed project may be withheld if reasonable standards of safety and environmental protection are not demonstrated.

If a dam or flooded area is to be located on public land, appropriate tenure such as a lease or licence of occupation must also be obtained from the Ministry.

District staff can provide advice about other agencies such as the Ministry of the Environment, the Department of Transport and local Conservation Authorities, where they exist, who should also be consulted before the project is started.

Since processing time for applications can be up to a year, it is best to apply for approval well in advance.

Further details can be found in the Ministry publication entitled "Building a Dam and Other Water Projects". This booklet can be obtained through the Public Information Centre, Whitney Block, Queen's Park, Toronto, M7A 1W3, at a minimal cost.

Waterpowers

The flowing waters of Ontario's rivers provide 34 percent of the electricity used every day. Seventy generating stations, operated by Ontario Hydro and other major power authorities such as Great Lakes Power and Spruce Falls Power and Paper Company, generate some 4,900 megawatts of power which feeds into the hydro grid for distribution to users

throughout the Province and beyond.

In most cases, the land over which the water flows is Crown owned, and, therefore, the power authorities are obliged to pay royalties to the Ministry of Natural Resources, based on the amount of power actually generated.

In addition to the large power-generating installations, smaller scale generating systems are increasingly being installed on small streams to provide power for local use—tourist lodges, remote communities, even individual farms and homes. Where the bed of the stream is Crown owned, the Ministry charges for the right to occupy the land and generate power from the water flowing over it.

Anyone who wishes to develop a waterpower should contact the local district office of the Ministry for advice and guidance.

Public Land and You

Introduction

Throughout Ontario, anyone may use Crown lands and waters without charge for transient recreational activities such as hiking, canoeing, swimming or birdwatching, or for hunting or fishing subject to the game laws. In rare instances, areas of Crown land may be posted to prohibit certain activities. For example, snowmobiling may be prohibited in areas where tree seedlings have recently been planted, or hunting may be prohibited in areas where workmen are engaged in woods operations.

Generally, roads and trails on Crown lands are open to public travel. However, exceptions may exist where, for instance, a logging company rents the roadway from the Crown in order to keep private vehicles from causing traffic problems for the log-hauling trucks, or where a cross-country ski club rents a trail in order to charge user fees to recover its costs of constructing and maintaining the trail.

In addition to free transient uses, some limited fixed recreational uses are also permitted without charge. For instance, private (non-commercial)

Land Registry Offices



recreational camping on unposted Crown lands is allowed for limited periods—generally up to 21 days per year. A current exception to this is in northwestern Ontario where nonresidents of Canada are obliged to obtain a permit and pay a daily fee for camping on Crown lands.

For longer term uses such as cottaging, or commercial enterprises such as service stations, motels, tourist lodges, or marinas, the would-be user must apply for the legal right to hold the land. Applications for this tenure are made at the district office of the Ministry of Natural Resources district in which the land is located. (see map, Page 43).

Because land use guidelines identify appropriate management zones, it follows that an application for land in a no-development zone will not be accepted. On the other hand, applications for tenure in zones where development is permitted may be accepted if the applicant is eligible and the proposed land use is acceptable.

Upon acceptance of an application, the District Manager will provide instructions and advice as to what steps the applicant should then take. If tenure is to be by lease or freehold patent, the parcel of land must be surveyed by an Ontario Land Surveyor so that the title document, when prepared, can be registered in the proper Land Registry Office (see maps, Page 23). For other forms of tenure, such as licence of occupation or land use permit, a formal survey may not be required because such tenure documents are rarely registered. In any event, the applicant is responsible for the costs of any survey or description that may be necessary for issuance of the tenure document.

When Crown land is sold, the purchase price is the market value of the land as determined by tender, auction or appraisal. Such price is payable in full before the applicant can take possession of the land. Similarly, where Crown land is rented, whether by lease, licence of occupation, or land use permit, the annual rent is usually a percentage of the land's market value and the first year's rent must be paid in full before the rental document is issued.

A purchaser or lessee of Crown land is obliged to complete certain improvements on the land within a limited time frame.

Because prices and rents for Crown lands are at market value levels, there is no financial advantage in choosing to acquire Crown land rather than privately-owned land, particularly in areas where private land of similar quality is available.

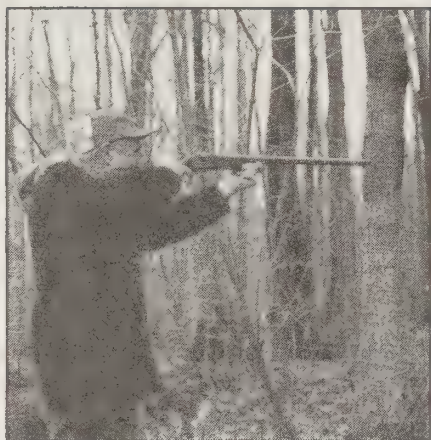
When a person becomes registered as the owner or lessee of a parcel of land, the land may be used as collateral for mortgage or other financial security. Land held by licence of occupation or land use permit is, however, rarely acceptable to lending institutions as collateral for a loan or mortgage.

Land to Play On

Transient Recreational Uses

Basically, all transient recreational activities are free and unlimited on public lands and waters. These are outdoor recreation activities that involve moving about on foot or by watercraft or all terrain vehicle. Examples are hiking, snowshoeing, skiing, canoeing, waterskiing, sailing, snowmobiling, and trailbiking. Swimming, birdwatching and photography are further examples of transient activities that may be freely pursued on unposted public lands and waters. There are, however, some exceptions to the free, unlimited use concept. For instance:

- During periods of high forest fire hazard, entire regions may be temporarily closed to woods travel in order to minimize the risks of fires being started and to reduce the chances of recreationists being trapped by fast-spreading blazes.
- In some localities, certain recreational trails which cross public lands may be seasonally rented by the Ministry to established local trail clubs such as snowmobile clubs. In each case, the club bears all costs of maintaining the trail and then charges user fees in order to recover those costs. Such trails are well marked and, should a transient recreationist wish to use them, it is necessary to become a member of the club or pay a user fee.



Canoe tripping is one of the most popular summertime sports. And because the Province has such a wealth of lakes and streams, the opportunities for canoe tripping are virtually limitless. Many of the commonly-used routes, some of which follow the routes used by the early fur traders and the Indian people, are mapped out and described in brochures available at the local Ministry district office or from the Public Information Centre, Whitney Block, Queen's Park, Toronto, M7A 1W3. For uncharted routes, staff at the local Ministry office can provide useful information and advice.

Hunting and Fishing

Hunting and fishing are further examples of transient recreational activities that are free on unposted public lands and waters. However, anyone engaging in these sports is subject to the regulations under the Game and Fish Act, regarding licences, open seasons, catch and possession limits.

Not all public lands are open for hunting or fishing: Fish sanctuaries and most wildlife preserves are examples of areas where these pursuits are prohibited. Also, for safety reasons, hunting may be prohibited in the vicinity of logging or other woods operations.

Prohibited areas are marked with signs posted in prominent locations, and it is incumbent upon recreationists to observe and obey those signs.

Camping

Ontario provides a wide range of outstanding camping opportunities on public land and in provincial parks and commercially operated campgrounds. Most provincial parks can accommodate the normal volume of camping activity and are designed and equipped for this use. However, there are locations within the Province where established campgrounds are limited and the number of people seeking campsites is sometimes greater than the number of campsites available, especially during peak periods.

Another important consideration is the ever-growing demand for wilderness camping. Since the sixties the trend towards recreational use of

wilderness areas has increased. Therefore, a significant number of individuals who take extended wilderness canoeing and hiking trips are seeking areas of the Province that are pristine in nature.

For these reasons, a limited amount of free camping on unposted public lands is permitted on condition that:

- the camping is in connection with private, non-profit recreation, not part of a commercial venture;
- camping equipment is located on Crown lands for only short periods of time (typically no more than 21 days per year in total);
- a non-resident of Canada, camping in Red Lake, Kenora, Fort Frances, Sioux Lookout, Ignace or Atikokan districts, uses camping equipment rented from an Ontario supplier. Within these six districts, a non-resident who uses his own camping equipment is obliged to obtain a Crown Land Camping Permit and pay daily fees; in all other districts, non-residents currently enjoy the same free camping privileges as residents do.

Crown land camping sites are not equipped, maintained or supervised to the same extent that provincial or commercial campgrounds are. Therefore, people who use Crown land for camping must be particularly conscious of the need to prevent environmental damage through littering, improper garbage disposal, inadequate sanitation, or the careless use of fire.

Recreation Camp Sites

Throughout central and southeastern Ontario there are numerous sites on public land which were originally rented to individuals as sites for private hunting or fishing camps. These sites, each about .405 hectares (one acre) in size, were generally located in relatively inaccessible areas and were used only during the hunting and fishing seasons.

Over the years, however, with more extensive road networks and the increased use of all-terrain vehicles, many camps came to be used for a variety of recreational activities in addition to, or instead of,

only seasonal hunting or fishing. In recognition of this, the Ministry ceased calling them hunting or fishing camps and, instead, deals with them as private recreation camps, the sites for which are rented under land use permit on a short-term basis, with no commitment to longer term tenure.

With the changing of land uses over time, some of the original campsites were eliminated and others had to be relocated. Since no new sites have been made available over the past 20 years or so, the total number is gradually diminishing and may ultimately be phased out.

The only way anyone can get one of these recreation camp sites is by purchasing the existing camp building from its owner and then applying to the local Ministry District Manager for a land use permit for the site. Obviously, before finalizing purchase of the camp, the District Manager should be consulted to determine whether or not a new land use permit may be issued to the would-be purchaser. For instance, non-residents of Ontario are generally not eligible for such sites.

The holder of a recreation camp site must always be aware of the fact that he has exclusive possession of only the site—usually about .405 hectares (one acre)—and has no other exclusive rights to use any adjacent or surrounding public lands, roads, trails, or waters. He should also realize that his tenure to the site is only on a short term basis, subject to termination at any time if any condition of the land use permit is violated or if the Ministry concludes that the land should be used for some other purpose.

Cottage Lots

The Crown cottage lot program is presently under review in the Ministry. When the review is completed, the cottage lot program will be dealt with in a separate brochure. In the meantime, please contact the District Manager for an update on the cottaging program.

Land to Live On Residential Sites

Although most residential development takes place on privately owned land, it is possible to acquire



housing sites on public land within municipalities or communities in northern Ontario, if a local need exists.

Two types of residential lots are available from the Crown: townsites lots and individual locations.

Townsites lots are lots in existing surveyed subdivisions, usually in small communities originally established as townsites for miners, loggers, or railway workers. Some of these lots may be Crown owned because they never were sold or because they were forfeited back to the Crown, for non-payment of taxes for example. Depending on the size of the community, services such as hydro, sewers, and water may be available.

Individual locations may be made available within municipalities or communities where no vacant townsites lots are on inventory. Because an individual location is generally not presurveyed, an applicant must pay for a survey by an Ontario Land Surveyor in addition to paying the purchase price or rent.

In localities where rapid community growth is anticipated—because of the development of a large new mine, for instance—blocks of Crown residential land may be made available to the municipality or housing authority which, in turn, develops and services the lots before they are offered for sale to individuals.

In undeveloped areas of the Province, public land is generally not available for residential use unless the nature of the applicant's full-time rural occupation demands that he live close to his work. For instance, an isolated home site may be made available to someone employed full-time as an operator of a remote pipeline compressor station.

Residential sites—whether townsites lots or individual locations—may be purchased at appraised market value or leased at an annual rent based on a percentage of the lot's market value. In either case, it is a condition that a dwelling, of a size and value consistent with local requirements, be erected on the lot within 24 months.

Staff in each Ministry district office can provide information about locations and availability of residential lots within their district.

Land to Work On:

Commercial/Industrial Sites

Service stations, motels, tent and trailer camps, and tourist lodges are typical commercial uses for which public land may be sought. Industrially, sites may be desired for sawmills or other manufacturing or processing plants, while land under water may be required for marinas or industrial wharves or harbours.

In every case, the proposed use of the site must be in conformity with the land use plans for the locality, and the concurrence of other agencies—such as the municipality and health authorities—must be obtained.

Generally, sites on dry land may be purchased if the development is substantial and permanent; otherwise tenure is confined to leasehold. Underwater sites are almost always leased, not sold. The amount of the rent is derived from either the market value of the site or, in circumstances where market value data is scarce or nonexistent, from a formula which takes into account the intensity of land use and the security of tenure. Rents are subject to review and adjustment at five-year intervals.

Anyone interested in obtaining a commercial or industrial site on public land should contact the district in which the land is located.

Agricultural Lands

Public land management policy is that forested public land should not be cleared and developed for farming until land which is already cleared and suitable for farming is being fully utilized for agricultural purposes. Because of this policy, most dispositions of public land for farming are made to existing farmers who wish to expand their existing farming operations and need additional land in order to do so.

Every application for agricultural land—whether from an existing farmer or a novice—is carefully reviewed to ensure that the applicant has the training, experience and capital necessary to the development and operation of a viable commercial farming operation. Soil tests are also performed to ensure that the soil is suitable for the type of farming planned.

When an application has been accepted, the usual arrangement is a rental agreement for a period ranging from two to five years, during which time the farmer undertakes appropriate development and improvement of the land. At the end of the rental period, if the development has been satisfactorily performed, the land may be sold to him at a price based on its market value at the time the rental agreement was entered into. The freehold patent, when issued, is qualified to the effect that the land may be used for agricultural purposes only.

The term “agricultural purposes” does not include the farming of game, fish, or Christmas trees.

Public land for “homesteading” is not available in Ontario, as the Free Grant and Homestead laws were repealed in 1961.

Timber Management and Harvesting

Approximately 90 percent of all productive forest land in Ontario is owned by the Crown. In addition, the timber rights on land sold or leased by the Province are often reserved to the Crown.

Licences to cut Crown timber are granted under the authority of the Crown Timber Act. They are issued primarily to companies and individuals to provide a continuing supply of raw material for Ontario’s forest industry. In addition permits may be issued to individuals to harvest timber for their own use (e.g. fuelwood) subject to the availability of suitable timber.

The responsibility for management, disposition and renewal of the forest resources on Crown land rests with the Ministry of Natural Resources. Under the Forest Management Agreement program, management activities such as harvesting, renewal, tending, and the construction and maintenance of access roads are carried out by the company on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources under the terms and conditions of the Forest Management Agreement.

All timber management activities on Crown land in Ontario are carried out as part of an approved forest management and/or operating plan. Such plans are prepared by or under the supervision of a

professional forester. All new management and operating plans and subsequent major revisions of existing plans are subject to a process of public consultation and review prior to approval. All approved plans are available for public inspection at the Ministry's district offices.

In certain instances timber management practices must be modified for the protection or enhancement of other resources such as fish and wildlife or to provide for other use such as recreation. Each area where this takes place is called a Modified Management Area and its identification and suitable management prescription is documented in the forest management and operating plans.

Information and details on forest management regulations and the availability of Crown timber for harvesting may be obtained by contacting District Offices, or Timber Sales Branch, Ministry of Natural Resources, Queen's Park, Toronto, M7A 1W3.

Fur Management and Harvesting

Throughout the Province, public lands are divided into registered trapline areas allocated to registered licenced trappers. The Ministry supervises these trappers to ensure that the fur-bearing animal populations are properly managed and protected, and that harvesting rates are consistent with a sustained yield policy.

The efficient management and harvesting of fur in remote areas commonly requires a trapper to have one or more trapline cabins in which to stay while patrolling his trapline. Those cabins, on public land, are for use strictly in connection with trapline activities, and any other use, such as allowing hunters or anglers to use them, places the trapper's licence in jeopardy.

Complete details about fur management and trapping regulations, on public or private lands, may be obtained from Ministry district offices.

Mining Exploration and Development

Prospecting and Acquiring a Mining Claim

The prospector, wishing to explore for minerals on Crown land, must obtain a prospector's licence from

the Mining Recorder (Ministry of Northern Development and Mines) in one of nine offices situated throughout Ontario, or from most of the Ministry's northern district offices and some in the south. (See Map, Page 35). Anyone over 18 years of age is eligible for a prospecting licence at a cost of \$5. The licence expires on March 31 following its date of issue. Courses are offered for would-be prospectors by Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and through the services of several community colleges.

The procedure for staking a mining claim is set out in the Mining Act and can be fully explained in the Mining Recorder's office. After staking a claim, the prospector files an application with the Mining Recorder to have it recorded and pays a fee. There is no limit to the number of claims that may be staked and recorded by a licensed prospector in a year.

The Mining Recorder ensures that mining rights are available on the land, then records the claim. If the claim is not disputed within 60 days of recording, the prospector may pay a fee and apply for a certificate of record. The Mining Recorder will have the claim inspected and if it is properly staked, will issue a certificate of record, after which the claim may not be disputed because of the staking, except with the consent of the Mining and Lands Commissioner.

Claims may be cancelled if they are being used for any purpose other than mining. The Mining and Lands Commissioner, although subject to the Supreme Court of Ontario and the Supreme Court of Canada, is the final authority for settling disputes about claims. Within a five-year period from the initial recording of the claim, the prospector is required to perform a minimum amount of exploration work on the claim. This work is reported annually to the Mining Recorder. Failure to perform and/or report work will result in the cancellation of the claim. The Mining Recorder verifies by inspection that the work has been performed and may issue a Certificate of Performance of Work upon request. The claim holder may apply for lease within one year after the last date on which all work was required to be done and no later than the eleventh year after the date of recording. The lease has a term of 21 years with further renewals

at the discretion of the Minister of Northern Development and Mines. The first year's rent of one dollar per .405 hectares (one acre) (minimum \$10.) is due before the lease is issued. The rent for subsequent years is 25 cents per .405 hectares (one acre) for both surface and mining rights and 10 cents per .405 hectares (one acre) for mining rights only. After a year of continuous mineral production, the lease holder may apply for a freehold patent to replace the lease. The patent may be solely for mining rights, or may include surface rights if they are available.

Exploration for minerals is permitted by authority of an Exploratory Licence of Occupation issued by the Minister of Northern Development and Mines for prospecting Ontario's northern areas, generally above the 51st parallel of latitude. This territory is, for the most part, north of the Albany River and the southern tip of James Bay.

Reservations in Leases

Trees on mining land are reserved to the Crown; however, sufficient land may be cleared to accommodate mining operations. Surface rights may also be reserved to the Crown for roads, transmission lines, dams, and for developing waterpower.

Surface rights to mining claims are often held by another party, in which case the holder of the mining claim must pay compensation to the surface owner for any damage to the surface rights caused by prospecting, staking or actual mining operations.

Any available surface rights on the claim or on adjacent Crown land may be leased, where surface rights are needed for depositing waste materials or for erecting buildings necessary to mining.

Location of Mining Recorders' Offices Ministry of Northern Development and Mines

Mining Division
Red Lake

Address
Box 5003
Ontario Government Building
Red Lake, Ontario
P0V 2M0
Tel: (807) 727-2253

Location of Mining Recorders' Offices Ministry of Northern Development and Mines



SMC 12670

Kenora	Box 5080 808 Robertson Street Kenora, Ontario P9N 3X9 Tel: (807) 468-9841
Patricia	Box 309 Court House Sioux Lookout, Ontario P0V 2T0 Tel: (807) 737-2100
Thunder Bay	Box 5000 435 James Street South Thunder Bay, Ontario P7C 5G6 Tel: (807) 475-1311
Sault Ste. Marie	Box 669 875 Queen Street East Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 2B3 Tel: (705) 949-1231
Porcupine	60 Wilson Avenue Timmins, Ontario P4N 2S7 Tel: (705) 267-1401
Sudbury	199 Larch Street 10th Floor Sudbury, Ontario P3E 5P9 Tel: (705) 675-4125
Larder Lake	4 Government Road East Kirkland Lake, Ontario P2N 1A2 Tel: (705) 567-9242
Eastern Ontario	99 Wellesley Street West Whitney Block, Room 2548 Queen's Park Toronto, Ontario M7A 1W3 Tel: (416) 965-1322



Petroleum and Natural Gas

General

Regulations for licensing or leasing public land for the exploration and production of oil or natural gas are part of the Mining Act and are administered by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

At one time, original land grants in Ontario included oil and gas as part of the mineral rights ownership in the land, however, that is no longer true today.

Ontario's oil and gas potential in Crown land resides in geological formations underlying James Bay and the Hudson's Bay and James Bay Lowlands, Lakes Huron, St. Clair, Erie, Ontario and interconnecting waterways.

Exploration for hydrocarbons beneath all of the Great Lakes except the eastern portion of Lake Erie is prohibited by international accord. At the present time, only gas production is permitted in Lake Erie. Where oil is found under Lake Erie, the well must be plugged.

Exploratory Licences and Production Leases for Natural Gas in Lake Erie

Exploration for natural gas beneath Lake Erie is authorized by an Exploratory Licence of Occupation. Exploratory Licences are issued under Regulation 634 of the Mining Act, for a minimum area of one block (or 25 tracts with one tract being 254.95 hectares—approximately 630 acres) and the term of the licence is five years. In order to qualify for an Exploratory Licence of Occupation, the applicant must have the financial means and expertise to undertake an exploration and drilling program.

The holder of such a Licence of Occupation is required to perform exploratory work amounting to \$1,250 for each tract during the first year, and \$2,500 per tract for each of the following years. In addition the licensee must post a bond of \$20,000 up to a maximum of \$200,000 (ten wells) to guarantee that each gas well will be correctly sealed at the time of abandonment. A minimum of \$1,000,000 liability insurance must also be provided by the licensee to

cover any environmental or other damage caused by drilling or bringing the well into production.

Where there are competing applications for the same area, Licences of Occupation may be granted on the merits of the proposed programs, or alternately the exploratory right may be offered for sale by tender.

When a licensee has proved the presence of natural gas, some of the tracts associated with the well may be converted to lease. These leases are renewable as long as production from the well continues. Royalty for gas produced from the lease is 12 1/2 percent of the prevailing field price.

Hudsons Bay and James Bay Lowlands

In northern Ontario, north of the 51st parallel of latitude, rights for petroleum exploration only, may be acquired under Regulation No. 604/70 of the Mining Act. Licences of Occupation are issued on a grid area basis for a term of three years. The fee for a licence is \$250 annually, in advance, and work commitments of 5 cents per .405 hectares (one acre) for each of the first two years and 10 cents per .405 hectares (one acre) for the third year are required.

If commercial amounts of oil or gas are discovered, the Licence of Occupation may be converted to a production lease for 21 years, with an annual rent of \$1.00 per .405 hectares (one acre) beginning at a minimum of \$1,000. A royalty rate of 10 percent of the prevailing field price is payable on the oil or gas produced.

Information

Information on petroleum and natural gas exploration and production is available from the Petroleum Resources Laboratory, 458 Central Avenue, London, Ontario, N6B 5E2, or from the Ministry of Natural Resources, Southwestern Region, 659 Exeter Road, P.O. Box 5463, London, Ontario, N6A 4L6.

Taxes on Mining Land

Patented mining lands and mining rights are subject to an acreage tax that is levied by the Province. The current rate is 50 cents per .405 hectares (one acre) per annum. Patented mining rights may be exempt from acreage tax where the land has been subdivided



for city, town, or summer resort purposes with no severance of the surface or mining rights, or where patented mining rights are being used for public parks or religious purposes.

In those parts of the Province that are municipally organized, the acreage tax is levied only against the mining rights of patented mining lands and mining rights that are severed or held separate from the surface rights. The surface rights of such lands are subject to assessment and taxation by the municipality.

Default in the payment of acreage tax results in forfeiture to the Crown of mining rights in organized townships, and in areas without municipal organization can include either mining rights or surface and mining rights. In most cases the forfeited lands are reopened for staking. If municipal taxes are not kept in good standing, the surface rights can be acquired by the municipality who may subsequently dispose of them through the tax sale procedure.

Crown Aggregates

The removal of sand, gravel, stone, peat, marble and similar materials from Crown land is authorized by the issue of quarry permits by the local District Managers under the Mining Act. Mining claims may be staked and recorded for the purpose of extracting any industrial minerals except sand, gravel, and peat. These three exceptions may be included only with special consent of the Minister of Northern Development and Mines.

Permits are normally valid for one year from date of issue. They are issued free of charge if the material is for public roads or for private non-industrial, non-commercial use. Commercial users pay a permit fee plus a royalty to the Ministry for each cubic metre (cubic yard) of material quarried or removed. Permits must be renewed prior to their anniversary date.

The Ministry may refuse to grant a permit for any of several reasons, for example, if proposed operations threaten roads and rights-of-way.

A mining claim may be staked on the same ground for which a permit allowing sand, gravel or peat removal, has been issued, subject to the rights of the holder of the quarry permit.

Public Land for Others

Land for Utilities

Much of the gasoline, oil and natural gas used by the people of Ontario has been transported long distances in pipelines; electricity is delivered to homes and factories through transmission lines stretching from generating stations in various areas of the Province; and telephone and telegraph communications depend on thousands of miles of telephone lines linking all areas of the Province and the rest of the world.

The utility companies which construct and maintain these networks of pipelines, hydro lines, and telephone lines pay annual rents to the Ministry for the public land occupied by their lines. When they wish to build new or additional lines, they must obtain prior permission from the Ministry and comply with various rules and guidelines which minimize the impacts of these utilities on the natural environment. Upon completion of construction, the public land occupied by a new line is also subject to the payment of annual rent.

Land for Other Government Purposes

Other ministries of the Ontario government, and other Federal or Municipal governments commonly require provincial public land for their programs. Examples are land required by the Ministry of Transportation and Communications for new highways or airstrips; land required by the Government of Canada for Indian reserves or national parks; land required by a municipality for housing subdivisions or new roads.

Since Federal Government departments and other Ontario ministries are representative of the "Crown," their land needs are fulfilled wherever possible by simply transferring administration and control from the Ministry of Natural Resources to the Minister of the receiving ministry or department. Such a transfer may be at a price based on the land's market value or, where the intended land use will be of significant benefit to the people of Ontario, for a nominal administrative fee.

Municipalities, on the other hand, being corporations and not a part of the "Crown," must obtain their public land requirements through the normal process of purchase or lease. If the land is to

be used strictly for municipal purposes (for example, as a site for waste disposal) the purchase price or rent may be nominal. However, if the land is for development and resale (e.g. a housing subdivision) the price is usually market value.

Most transfers to other ministries and governments carry a proviso that, when the land is no longer required for the purpose for which it was transferred, it will revert back to the Ministry of Natural Resources and resume its status as Crown or public land.

Land for Institutions

Public land may be made available as sites for churches, schools, cemeteries, or similar institutional land uses. Generally, the need for such sites arises in or near small northern communities where most of the land is Crown-owned.

Before a site is sold, it must be established that the proposed land use is in accord with zoning plans for the area.

In addition to paying a purchase price—usually based on a percentage of the site’s market value—a survey by an Ontario Land Surveyor must be paid for by the applicant.

Wherever possible, the Ministry provides land on a ‘free use’ basis for School Boards’ outdoor education programs. However, if the educational institution wishes to erect buildings or other improvements on the public land, tenure is required and rent is charged.

Land for Non-Profit Organizations

An incorporated non-profit organization, that requires land in order to provide free or subsidized outdoor recreation opportunities for children, youths or elderly, handicapped or underprivileged persons, may be provided with public land where a suitable site is available.

Parcel size is normally limited to a few hectares and tenure may be by lease or land use permit, depending on the expected duration of the land use and the extent to which the site is to be developed. To be eligible for a lease, the organization’s charter must empower it to hold land in Ontario. Also, the issuance of a lease requires that the parcel be surveyed—at the applicant’s expense.

Maps Available from the Ministry of Natural Resources

Those who wish to make full use of Ontario's public land and water for recreation or business, need accurate maps as well as a knowledge of the regulations discussed in this booklet. A large variety of maps of Ontario are produced by the Ministry of Natural Resources for sale to the public. Many of these are available in district offices.

The maps available at Queen's Park, Toronto are:

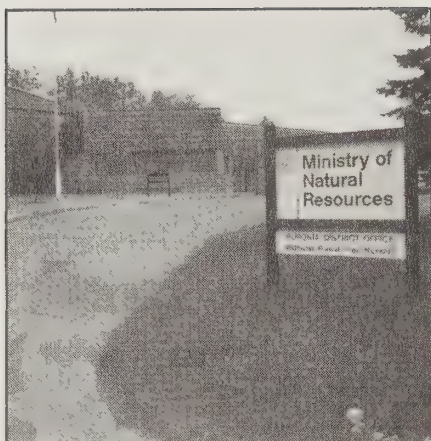
- The popular 1:100,000 scale planimetric map series covering the southern part of northern Ontario. These planimetric maps do not show contours.
- Aerial photographs and planimetric base maps at 1:15,840 or 1:10,000.
- A series of seven territorial maps of Ontario at a scale of 1:600,000.
- The Ontario Basic Mapping topographic series at scales of 1:20,000 in northern Ontario and 1:10,000 in southern Ontario.
- Graphic indexes showing Crown land status by township. These plans, known as interim G-Plans are presently being converted to Ontario Basic Mapping G-Plans and will show current status and contours.
- Geological maps discussed in the mining chapters.
- Provincial Parks maps, such as Algonquin, Killarney, and Quetico which show portages, hiking trails and campsites.
- Forest stand maps at 1:15,840 and 1:10,000 for the Southwestern, Central, and Eastern Regions showing the forest cover classification.
- Lake maps which give water depths and fishing information about individual lakes.
- The brochure "Wildlife Management Areas in Ontario" includes maps of areas in southern Ontario where the Ministry is managing the land for wildlife.
- Federal topographic maps, principally at scales of 1:50,000 and 1:250,000 are also for sale.

Written orders (quoting each map's identification number) are accepted when accompanied by a money order or cheque made payable to the Treasurer of Ontario. Price lists and indexes for all these maps and for a large number of brochures may be obtained in person or by writing to the Public Information Centre, Ministry of Natural Resources, Whitney Block, Queen's Park, Toronto, M7A 1W3.

Location of Regional and District Offices



Ministry of Natural Resources District Offices



For further information contact the appropriate district office in the regions listed below.

NORTHERN ONTARIO

Northern Region

140-4th Avenue
Cochrane, Ontario
P0L 1C0
Tel: (705) 272-4287

Chapleau District

190 Cherry Street
Chapleau, Ontario
P0M 1K0
Tel: (705) 864-1710

Cochrane District

Box 730
2 Third Avenue
Cochrane, Ontario
P0L 1C0
Tel: (705) 272-4365

Gogama District

Box 129
Gogama, Ontario
P0M 1W0
Tel: (705) 894-2000

Hearst District

Box 670
631 Front Street
Hearst, Ontario
P0L 1N0
Tel: (705) 362-4346

North Central Region

Box 5000
435 James Street South
Thunder Bay, Ontario
P7C 5G6
Tel: (807) 475-1261

Atikokan District

108 Saturn Avenue
Atikokan, Ontario
P0T 1C0
Tel: (807) 597-6971

Kapuskasing District

6 Government Road
Kapuskasing, Ontario
P5N 2W4
Tel: (705) 335-6191

Kirkland Lake District

Box 129
Swastika, Ontario
P0K 1T0
Tel: (705) 642-3222

Moosonee District

Box 190
Moosonee, Ontario
P0L 1Y0
Tel: (705) 336-2987

Timmins District

896 Riverside Drive
Timmins, Ontario
P4N 3W2
Tel: (705) 267-7951

Terrace Bay District

Box 280
Terrace Bay, Ontario
P0T 2W0
Tel: (807) 825-3205

Geraldton District

Box 640
Geraldton, Ontario
P0T 1M0
Tel: (807) 854-1030

Thunder Bay District

Box 5000
435 James Street South
P7C 5G6
Tel: (807) 475-1511

Nipigon District

Box 970
Nipigon, Ontario
P0T 2J0
Tel: (807) 887-2120

Northeastern Region

199 Larch Street
Sudbury, Ontario
P3E 5P9
Tel: (705) 675-4120

Blind River District

Box 190
62 Queen Street
Blind River, Ontario
P0R 1B0
Tel: (705) 356-2234

Sudbury District

Box 3500
Station 'A'
Sudbury, Ontario
P3A 4S2
Tel: (705) 522-7823

Espanola District

Box 1340
148 Fleming Street
Espanola, Ontario
P0P 1C0
Tel: (705) 869-1330

Temagami District

Box 38
Lakeshore Drive
Temagami, Ontario
P0H 2H0
Tel: (705) 569-3622

North Bay District

Box 3070
222 McIntyre Street West
North Bay, Ontario
P1B 8K7
Tel: (705) 474-5550

Wawa District

Box 1160
22 Mission Road
Wawa, Ontario
P0S 1K0
Tel: (705) 856-2396

Sault Ste. Marie District

Box 130
875 Queen Street East
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
P6A 2B3
Tel: (705) 949-1231

Northwestern Region

Box 5160
810 Robertson Street
Kenora, Ontario
P9N 3X9
Tel: (807) 468-3111

Dryden District

Box 730
479 Government Road
Dryden, Ontario
P8N 2Z4
Tel: (807) 223-3341

Kenora District

Box 5080
808 Robertson Street
Kenora, Ontario
P9N 3X9
Tel: (807) 468-9841

Fort Frances District

922 Scott Street
Fort Frances, Ontario
P9A 1J4
Tel: (807) 274-5337

Red Lake District

Box 5003
Red Lake, Ontario
P0V 2M0
Tel: (807) 727-2253

Ignace District

Box 448
Ignace, Ontario
P0T 1T0
Tel: (807) 934-2233

Sioux Lookout District

Box 309
Sioux Lookout, Ontario
P0V 2T0
Tel: (807) 737-1140

SOUTHERN ONTARIO

Algonquin Region

Box 9000
Brendale Square
Huntsville, Ontario
P0A 1K0
Tel: (705) 789-9611

Algonquin Park District

Box 219
Whitney, Ontario
K0J 2M0
Tel: (613) 637-2780

Minden District

Minden, Ontario
K0M 2K0
Tel: (705) 286-1521

Bancroft District

Box 500
Bancroft, Ontario
K0L 1C0
Tel: (613) 332-3940

Parry Sound District

4 Miller Street
Parry Sound, Ontario
P2A 1S8
Tel: (705) 746-4201

Bracebridge District

Box 1138
Bracebridge, Ontario
P0B 1C0
Tel: (705) 645-8747

Pembroke District

Box 220
Riverside Drive
Pembroke, Ontario
K8A 6X4
Tel: (613) 732-3661

Central Region

10670 Yonge Street
Richmond Hill, Ontario
L4C 3C9
Tel: (416) 884-9203

Cambridge District

Box 2186
Beaverdale Road
Cambridge, Ontario
N3C 2W1
Tel: (519) 658-9355

Maple District

1041 Dufferin Street
Maple, Ontario
L0J 1E0
Tel: (416) 832-2761

Huron District

Midhurst, Ontario
L0L 1X0
Tel: (705) 728-2900

Niagara District

Box 1070
Fonthill, Ontario
L0S 1E0
Tel: (416) 892-2656

Lindsay District

322 Kent Street West
Lindsay, Ontario
K9V 4T7
Tel: (705) 324-6121

Eastern Region

Provincial Government
Building
Concession Road
Kemptonville, Ontario
K0G 1J0
Tel: (613) 258-3413

Brockville District

Box 605
Oxford Avenue
Brockville, Ontario
K6V 5V8
Tel: (613) 342-8524

Napanee District

1 Richmond Boulevard
Napanee, Ontario
K7R 3S3
Tel: (613) 354-2173

Carleton Place District

10 Findlay Avenue
Carleton Place, Ontario
K7C 3Z6
Tel: (613) 257-5735

Cornwall District

Box 1749
113 Amelia Street
Cornwall, Ontario
K6H 5V7
Tel: (613) 933-1774

Southwestern Region

Box 5463
659 Exeter Road (Hwy. 135)
London, Ontario
N6A 4L6
Tel: (519) 681-5350

Aylmer District

Box 940
353 Talbot Street West
Aylmer, Ontario
N5H 2S8
Tel: (519) 773-9241

Chatham District

Box 1168
435 Grand Avenue West
Kent County Municipal
Building
Chatham, Ontario
N7M 5L8
Tel: (519) 354-7340

Owen Sound District

611 Ninth Avenue East
Owen Sound, Ontario
N4K 3E4
Tel: (519) 376-3860

Tweed District

Box 70
265 Metcalfe Street
Tweed, Ontario
K0K 3J0
Tel: (613) 478-2330

Simcoe District

645 Norfolk St. N.
Simcoe, Ontario
N3Y 3R2
Tel: (519) 426-7650

Wingham District

R.R. No. 5
Wingham, Ontario
N0G 2W0
Tel: (519) 357-3131

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